

Jan. 1838.

The objects of this summer excursion, (delayed long beyond the original period intended by the sittings & non attendance of the Legislative Council) were 1<sup>st</sup> a visit to the district of Swanport, 2<sup>nd</sup>, one to Araca in the way to Launceston, 3<sup>rd</sup> a short stay at Launceston combined with a voyage to Flinders island, & lastly on our return a bush expedition into the centre of the island N. of Marlborough, known by the name of the New Country. We calculated that these objects collecting would take up at least 2 months & that we might be back the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>d</sup> week of March, unless precipitately recalled earlier with the loss of some part of the execution of our plan, by the arrival of the Governor of New S. W. - Our party on this occasion was smaller than last year - Mrs. Macroschie having no longer any grounds to take charge of her children, was obliged to remain at home with them, Capt. M. begged to do the same, except during the time we were at Launceston, at which place he said he wished to shew himself in order that his enemies might have no cause to triumph over

him, & Sophy was left at home, because unfit for some part of the expedition & because we wished to make our party as small as possible - Sir John & myself, Mr. Ellis with Murphy & Margaret formed the small party, who after a morning of great battle recreation, embarked in the Government boat on Tuesday afternoon, the 2<sup>d</sup> of Jan<sup>y</sup> for Ralph's Bay, <sup>on the other side of</sup> which the latter was lying in which we were to be taken to East Bay neck, hoping which were to find the schooner ready to receive us & furnish us with our first night lodging - The lateness of the hour at which we set off prevented us as will be seen from accomplishing this day's work completely -

The distance from Hobart town to Ralph's Bay neck is about 10 miles - We kept to the Hobart side of the river under the upland farms & woods extending from Sandy Bay towards Brown's river, till we came nearly opposite the narrow entrance of the Bay, being the passage <sup>between</sup> the long promontory called the S. arm on the S. & a shorter promontory on the N. side - Upon the latter before we reached the point of entrance, we passed a located spot, on which was a small brick kiln & at the distance of a few cultivated fields, a dwelling house & outbuildings - I did not learn the name of the settler, or of his location the point was said to be called Fresh point.



Ralph's Bay lies parallel with the Duwent. the S. arm skirting its campy wooded clune as a sort of dyke between them - The shore of the Southern end of the Bay is so long as to be scarcely visible - the heavy-shaped little isle called Roberts' island rises in it. Our course lay up the Northern inlet of the Bay towards Clarence Plains, from which a small branch to the N. & E. terminates in the <sup>water</sup> muddy <sup>ground</sup> of the neck. on both sides of this Northern division of the bay, cultivation is clearing away the woodland, & smoothing the rugged aspect of the hills particularly at the N. end, where we recognised the windmill & at some distance in the same line the farm & garden of Mr. Stanfield, where on our return from Port Arthur, we stowed the cargo of the manum & obtained from her the humble means of getting back in appropriate to Hobart Town. at the end of the creek, we found at the landing place Capt. Booth whom we had expected with a bullock cart lent by Mr. Lawton - we all got in, in order to avoid wading in water & mud, but the poor beasts, so heavily laden could not drag us up the small elevation necessary to get on drier land, & Sir John & the 2 young men were obliged to lighten it. This being effected, we all ~~climbed~~ proceeded across the creek in cart or on foot, & in a short time after another short boat trip, found ourselves on board the <sup>passenger</sup> schooner, the ~~present~~ vessel of our poor lamented friend Burnett, then as now having a young man of the name of Starbuck for

4/ Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan Norfolk Bay.

master - We set sail across the bay generally called here by the name of Norfolk tho' that appellation is given in the map only to the S. E. portion of it, towards E. Bay neck, anchoring about 11 o'clock at night at about  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile from the land, where it becomes shoal water. In the first division of the bay called in the map Baia da Nord or Frederick Henry Bay, is the wide deepening to the S. from Storm Bay, between the head of Pipe Clay Cape on the W. & a bluff of Tasman's peninsula on the E. - Within the former Cape is an inner lagoon called Pipe Clay lagoon. The northern shore of the bay we were crossing we found by the lower lands of Pittwater & Carlton, overtopped by higher hills - as we proceeded Stirling island lay on our n. off the most northern point of Tasman's peninsula & lying in the mid passage of the S. E. division of the bay was Garden island. I slept on the bare boards of the cutter on board the cutter, preferring it to the dirty ship's bedding - The Parramatta has 2 cabins, the fore one being spacious & airy. After breakfasting early on Wednesday morning the 3<sup>rd</sup>, we took to the boats & passed from them into a cart which was standing in the water with 4 ballast, yoked to it, a convenience we owed to Capt Spotswood, a settler on E. Bay, who was awaiting us with Capt Harbuz of the Eliza, on the shore. Capt Spotswood's maintenance & manna in deer

x on the following morning this all was for our use, little Garden island and



Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan<sup>ry</sup> East Bay Neck. RS16/200 Capt<sup>n</sup> Spokenwood. 5

in its bearing a melancholy the correctness of the character which had been given me of the individual, viz. that he has occasional fits of drunkenness which palsy all his faculties. I was told that he will go on temperately & soberly for a length of time - then at the first temptation arising from a visit to town will give himself up to a course of prolonged & beatifying intoxication. Capt<sup>n</sup> S. is a middle-aged man, a widower with 2 daughters.

he was a Capt<sup>n</sup> in the 84<sup>th</sup> reg<sup>t</sup> which he was obliged to quit in consequence of his irregular habits - he got a maximum grant shortly before on Forester's peninsula of 2560 acres, which he sold immediately to D<sup>r</sup> Donlay for 2500 guineas - This information I had from Capt<sup>n</sup> Booth - Capt<sup>n</sup> S. informed me himself that he had lived 7 years on the neck & that his estate <sup>which he partly fellows from a plain near</sup> consisted of 400 acres, 50 <sup>Bombay</sup> of which are in cultivation, his crops being wheat, turnips, potatoes, peas &c. He said it was only third rate land - The distance across the neck is 600 yards. - In crossing this distance in the ballast cart, we passed the farm of Capt<sup>n</sup> S. - The dwelling-house which we declined entering is built of wood, but seems a respectable building having a deep, sloping roof - The property commands a double view towards Norfolk Bay on the S. & E. Bay bounded by Maria island on the North -

Taking leave of Capt<sup>n</sup> Spokenwood on the neck - having been deposited by means of his cart &c a day into the boats, we now found ourselves at Dr. Donlay's house in a cultivated spot on the main facing us -

in E. B. Neck, a shallow inlet of the Eastern Sea, bounded on the E. or N. by Foxen's peninsula, on the W. & the main land of the Division called Pembroke. The entrance from the sea to the N. is between a long spit of land projecting from the main & the N. extremity of the peninsula - it is called the narrows - a distance the spit of land has the effect of a long jetty, stretching across the mouth of the inlet & beneath it are uncovered mud banks, on which pelicans, Sander Geese & a particular species of pigeon alight in flocks, retaining their position if the boat drifts quickly by, & only slowly & with reluctance rising into the air when caused by the sound of approaching cars. At the southern end of the inlet, is a branch extending eastward into Foxen's peninsula, which we passed on our N. beyond is a succession of small bays or coves, one of the last of which being opposite the spit of land, we were obliged to skirt very close to the shore in order to avoid the shoals & rocks, & even with this precaution we repeatedly grazed the bottom. This fact reflects on the <sup>highly uneven & rocky</sup> nature of the bottom in this shallow part of water, is a great impediment to the navigation of this inlet & to the undertaking suggested by Capt. Booth of making a railroad across the neck, to convey goods into Norfolk Bay & thence either round Cape or by another railroad across E. B. N. into the Desert. Capt. Booth having successfully accomplished his own railroad of 4 1/2 miles in length on Taiman's peninsula, and



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from Norfolk Bay to Port Arthur, is fully improved  
with the advantage settlers would find in  
making wooden railroads even at their own  
private expense, in places where a constant  
passage of heavy burdens is required, &  
particularly in marshy & boggy places. The  
almost expense he reckons which such a  
railroad would cost would not be so much as  
50 £ a mile. 1 <sup>man</sup> of sawyers per month  
making use of sawn timber, would be  
able to keep a road of 5 miles in repair  
throughout the year. - On the Port Arthur  
road 4 men are <sup>now</sup> sufficient for the conveyance  
of one ton, where 20 used to be required. from  
70 to 75 lbs. being reckoned as the average  
weight for each man. - The undulations  
which are steep in the Port Arthur road,  
are however <sup>found</sup> useful, the precipitateness  
of the descent impelling the load up  
the opposite hill in such a way as  
to overcome sometimes altogether the  
labour of the ascent. A rail-road 6 inches  
in breadth, & 2 1/2 thick, with transverse  
sleepers, 1 foot apart, will carry from 1 1/2  
to 2 tons. The early gum is the best of  
the material, generally at hand, for the purpose.  
The gum, if properly seasoned, is nearly  
equal to oak, for some purposes. - No heart-  
pines must be used, as they have a disposi-  
tion to decay rot, being short in the grain.  
On entering E. Bay, a projection of land,  
sometimes insulated at high tide stretches out  
in the W. side at the distance of about one  
third of the whole length of the inlet, from the

end of the bay eye; it is called Boomak island  
 is the property of Lieut. Billie of the 21<sup>st</sup>,  
 brother of Sir Wm. Hamilton's wife. He has  
 another farm bought by him from Mr. Lamb  
 situated above the spit of land before men-  
 tioned - The bays on the N. indenting the shore  
 of Forestier's Peninsula have individual names  
 which Capt. Booth was not able to affix indi-  
 vidually, such as Blackman's, Panake - Seal  
 Bays - There is a Blackman's bay also on the E.  
 side of the peninsula - in the interior is the  
 rich grazing district purchased by J. M. M. of  
 Capt. Spotswood - This said lot is very fine  
 land, but to want draining - The Caper in  
 cattle sustained by J. M. M. on this property  
 are said to be owing not to the land him-  
 self but to a poor race of animals having been  
 located there. While we were in E. Bay,  
 the view was mostly landlocked by Maria  
 island in the distance & the First Bluff of  
 the mainland - The schooner was lying outside  
 the spit, at the distance of about 7 miles  
 from <sup>the shore</sup> where we embarked in the boats, & about  
 12 miles from the nearest point of Maria  
 island & 22 from the settlement. On the  
 chart, a spot about half way <sup>in line</sup> ~~between~~  
 between the point of the spit in a N. E.  
 direction to the nearest S. point of Maria  
 island, is marked as the Anchorage of Tasman  
 in 1642 when he first discovered & named  
 Van Diemen's land - Our course was now  
 northwards towards the broad channel lying



between Maie Island & the Main. on our starboard quarter was the indented northern shore of Forster's Peninsula, bounded by a bold headland, which we took to be Cape Frederik Hendrick; & on our starboard bow we looked to the S. most point of Maie island called Cape Poon, with some islet <sup>islets</sup> & to another point eastward of it. The shore of the main land on the larboard side was precipitous & rocky; in one part they exhibited some perpendicular faces of grey rock & immediately adjoining horizontal strata of a yellowish hue, part of which were disfigured by a fall of shingles from the top. The colouring of the rock was sufficiently varied to give a more than usual degree of relief to the foliage which clothes without entirely disguising the surface - advancing up the channel, the coast on that side opens, & Lachlan or middle isle <sup>a low spot</sup> so called from its situation in nearly mid-channel appears a head - Cape Bourneville, the headland N. of Spring Bay appears beyond it -

We went down at this point for our voyage to dinner, now returning upon deck had passed a low neck of land stretching out into the channel opposite Lachlan island called in the map Point Lisane, within which to the South is a small bay called Oyster Bay; & immediately opposite to it on the E. side of the island is another, called Riddle Bay & between them is a very narrow neck of land which just prevents the N. & S. divisions of the island from becoming <sup>separate & isolated</sup>.

10. Wed. 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan. Maria Island

Maria island was so named it appears <sup>by Tasmans</sup> from  
the daughter of Anthony Van Diemen, Governor  
of Batavia, in 1642. It is like all other  
the other islands on the coast or in the inte-  
rior waters <sup>named</sup> Crown Land, & therefore not salable  
but it is at successive periods put up to let,  
is now leased by 2 individuals of the same  
of Seal & Egg, the former of whom resides  
at Hobart Town & the latter on the island  
where he & 6 assigned men - servants, are  
the only inhabitants. The settlement is  
nearly at the N. extremity of the island on  
the W. side at the opening of a flat valley  
between hills, watered by a small river or  
creek. In approaching this spot we had a  
fine view before us of the Schouten's island  
& a Huzenick's peninsula, with the large bay  
or Gulf of which they form the E. side, called  
Oyster Bay, on the N. coast of which is the  
entrance to the inlet called Great Lagoon Port, &  
in the N.W. corner the settlement of Water-  
loo Point. Seen in this direction Schouten  
which has a lofty & round outline is scarcely  
distinguishable from the high land of Huzenick's  
peninsula which lies behind it, the whole  
being apparently deposited in an open channel  
from some other high land forming a promontory the  
N. division of Huzenick's peninsula, which  
appears like an island - off the Northern extre-  
mity of Maria island, is a small naked isolated  
rock, the resort of sea fowl, & close to it a  
large isle covered with grass & clear of trees,  
called Green island.



Wedn. 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan<sup>ry</sup> Maria Island.

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We landed at the settlement about <sup>1/2</sup> 4 o'clock,  
after first sending off a boat with a note  
to Capt<sup>n</sup> McClaine at Spring Bay where we  
were expected in the evening to say we  
were going to Maria Island, & should not be  
able to land at Spring Bay till the following  
morning, tho we should anchor there during  
the night. Maria Island was previous to the  
establishment at Port Arthur, a sort of prob-  
ationary penal settlement, to which I believe  
prisoners were removed from Margaret har-  
bour before they were again assignable - The  
buildings of this establishment, now either in  
ruins, or occupied with the farming appoint-  
ments of the present lease of the Crown  
are dispersed on either side of the little  
creek, the former Commandant's house, now  
the residence of Mr. Jeff Goss, being somewhat  
apart from these on an eminence overlooking  
the <sup>little</sup> sandy bay of the settlement - we landed  
at a little dilapidated jetty, where there  
was a ladder too unsafe to use a second time  
& were met here by a young man of handsome  
features & prepossessing countenance & man-  
ners whom we concluded to be Mr. Goss -  
Mr. Seal at Hobart Town in reply to some  
enquiries sent to him, replied he was sorry  
our uncertain arrival did not admit of any  
preparations to be made for us, but he was  
since Mr. Goss would do all he could to be of  
service to us - The buildings still standing con-  
sist of the Hospital, a well whitewashed building  
- the hall on the left, the Commissariat Store,  
near the beach,

12. Wedn. 3<sup>rd</sup> Maria Island.

with the offices of the Storekeeper & the Surgeon, the soldiers' barracks which are dilapidated wooden huts to accommodate 12 men, a small brick jail adjoining, containing 2 rooms, 3 cells & 2 common rooms, a handsome range of brick buildings for the prisoners' barracks, erected only a short time before the establishment was abandoned, & some ruins of wooden buildings where various manufactures were carried on, such as a cloth manufactory, a tannery, shoemaking &c. Besides the Commandant's house, a brick building in a garden looking to the sea at some little distance from the settlement - we entered a tolerably spacious room in this house, bearing the aspect of a farmer's kitchen. The prisoners' barracks which are subdivided into several large rooms, are used as barns, & the narrow yard in front inclosed by a wall, as a cattle yard - we noticed the size & beauty of the cattle which looked as if they fed well & did little work - 2 of the bullocks were yoked to a cart for our service, which ~~were~~ <sup>was</sup> but having ordered to follow us, when we set off to see the cliffs, took a different route, so that we did not meet. The Commandant's stores seemed to be used as a stable in the lower part & a wool magazine in the upper. In a shed not far off, was a good boat called the *Philer* belonging to the tenants. The shores of the little settlement bay are strewed with whale



blubber & bones - Some of the latter well-bleached I had carried off, at the suggestion of Capt. Booth to make garden seats of.

The smell of the whale blubber & the still worse smell of putridity from the sea-weed made our walk along the sands to & from the dwelling-house any thing but agreeable - Our chief object of curiosity after taking a hasty survey of some of the buildings was to visit the cliffs of which we had heard at the Northern extremity of the island - On asking the length & bearing of our walk, Mr. Joss said it was about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile & pointed to a lofty & precipitous hill rising at some distance behind the settlement & presenting in its outline something which might be likened to a person leaning forward from a precipice - This rock as we found on approaching it nearer forms the outline of a bold headland enclosing a small bay or cove on the E. side of the island, & our walk which was for the most part on the ascent, brought us to the edge of some cliffs of high elevation from whence we contemplated this lovely & striking spot. The mountain rising behind this headland, & which may be called the Bishop if we regard that I have just described as the Clerk, is said to be 3000 ft high, but it was hid from our view by the clouds & mist - On going a few paces in the opposite direction, or Northward along the edge of the cliff, we looked upon a headland of a no less interesting character, in which the grass, & the feathery foliage of the sheath

clothed the rugged surface, except when the  
racks of a blackish or lead-colored haec lay  
bare exposed. we descended to the beach by  
a precipitous & slippery descent a little to  
the N. of this point in order to examine  
the cliff which is nothing but an agglomera-  
tion of petrified shells, chiefly oyster & cockles  
& some of very large size - large masses have  
tumbled down on the beach, & from there we  
endeavored to knock off some specimens but  
having no instrument but the rock itself,  
we did not succeed to our satisfaction.

I begged Mr. Goff to send over some better spe-  
cimens when he had occasion to go or send  
to Spring Bay, & giving him at the same  
time a slip of paper on which was written  
a notice of the reward offered for snakes  
which seemed to please him exceedingly -  
He thanked me as for a personal favour  
& said he was sure of soon getting a hundred  
snakes, for that they were very numerous  
on the island. I had heard before that  
they abounded in an unusual degree here.  
A little above the settlement is a paling  
inclosing a few tomb-stones bearing inscriptions  
of the date I think of 1820 & 30 - Mr. Goff said  
they were the tombs of Goff's men, which a  
term adopted by the prisoners generally to disig-  
nate their own class, & as this was an exception  
to the general rule which does not admit  
of tomb-stones being raised over the graves of  
convicts, we must station all probability these  
men had lost their lives under peculiar circum-



Spanner, such as the wreck of the vessel in which  
 they arrived. &c. - <sup>at the N. end of the island along the settlement</sup>  
<sup>on the hills - one up to the summit of the mountain, & the other</sup>  
 Having heard that Mr. Seal held this  
 lease, which was in 1828.

A lease at the almost nominal rent of nearly  
 10 £, we made enquiries on this head, & found  
 that he had it on a 5 years lease which expires  
 next March twelvemonth, when it is uncertain  
 whether they apply for a renewal of it or not.  
 Mr. Gagg for his part wished rather to give  
 it up - they pay 180 to a year for it - They  
 have about 20 acres in cultivation & have  
 a flock of 3000 sheep, which is as much  
 as the island will feed. The best run for  
 them is on the N. & S. side of land joining  
 the N. & S. sides of the island. Mr. Gagg said  
 they lost about 700 sheep a year, by  
 which he meant only that at the time  
 of sheep shearing, so many were missing  
 & could not be got back of the bush, that  
 4 or 5 shepherds are employed to look after  
 them. - The island he thought was about  
 26 miles long, & contains 26000 acres.  
 It is well adapted for a whaling station -  
 Mr. Meredith of Swanport to whom we  
 were afterwards speaking of Maria Island  
 said previously to Messrs Seal & Gagg, he had  
 held it for one year at 11 £, but what  
 with the delay of getting possession, & the  
 trouble of removing his sheep, he had no  
 sooner settled upon it, than it was time  
 to move off again, his lease being up -  
 His own opinion was that Government should  
 make it a rabbit warren & a preserve for game.

Thursday  
14<sup>th</sup> Jan

## Spring Bay.

It abounds with quails - Mr. Buxton, a settler in the Swanport District, thought the island should be partitioned into allotments & given to emigrants, in order to make a township for Spring Bay - This was a somewhat impudent hit at Sir John in his very face for having lately made Spring Bay into a police station.

Embarcating again at dusk on board the Schooner we made sail for Spring Bay, and about 2 hours anchored abreast of ~~the~~ one Tree Point in 7 fathoms water as the Log-book states.

It rained hard, accompanied by thunder & lightning during the night & the following morning Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> was too wet to enable us all to keep our appointment to breakfast at 9 o'clock at Capt'n MacLaine's. P. M. - The gentlemen went alone, & the weather holding up a little between 2 & 3 o'clock, Mary & I accompanied by Mr. Elliot who had returned for us, went on shore also. The bay is a fine & serviceable inlet & the planned township of Tenby as it is laid down on the map seems very advantageous placed at its head by the side of a small creek, or fresh water inlet. The township land was the original grant of Capt'n MacLaine, the sole settler at present on the spot, who exchanged it for land on both sides of the township by which he can at any time stop the water - Spring Bay has been made by Sir John in consequence of representations made to him as assistant Police Magistrate; but his own house, & a constable's has



4<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>ry</sup>Spring Bay.

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on the other side of the creek on the only buildings yet erected - a watch house a lock-up house will be the first construction undertaken - Capt. McLean is a Scotchman from Ayrshire. - his wife is Irish, a very good-natured sort of person - he has 3 children who were sent to the house of a neighbour, Mr. Walpole to be out of the way. - Mr. & Mrs. Lapham were with them, the latter being a sister of Mrs. Mi - Capt. M. was an officer of the 65<sup>th</sup> in which Regiment he served 18 - he has in his possession a handsome gold snuffbox presented to him by his brother officers on 1<sup>st</sup> Dec. 1828 on his leaving - he came out here to settle with his wife & child got a maximum grant, & fixed himself here with little delay or knowledge of the rest of the colony, being determined to be on the coast, & undeterred by the natives who were here both numerous & ferocious. Mr. Jones of the 63<sup>rd</sup> was stationed here with 12 men to keep them in order. The remains of their mud barracks are standing on the town ship. - Capt. M's location as it is now done is the work of about 7 years. - Mrs. M. has lived here about 6, having previously resided 2 years at Hobart Town, where she was very fond of gaily & fashion & thought of living in the bush with abhorrence, but having entered into it, she seems to bear it with much

contentment & lightness of heart. While she  
was in Hobart Town, he resided here in  
a tent superintending operations - The  
house which is built of brick has cost him  
about 500 £, the bricks being made on  
the spot - They began to inhabit it when 2  
rooms only were finished, and has not been  
long completed - They have a good sized garden  
about 60 or 70 acres in cultivation, yielding  
on an average from 30 to 35 bushels per  
acre - There are about 120 or 30 acres in  
addition of cultivable soil, or rather of  
equally good land; more that is available  
but the rest is of a worse description - The  
Township consists of 400 acres - Capt. M.  
calls his place Woodstock from a place  
in Ireland near which his wife & her sister  
came from - Their neighbours consist of  
Capt. Vickery, formerly of the 63<sup>d</sup>, at 1 1/2  
miles, Major Lind with a large family  
at 5 miles, Mr. Walpole, at  
2 Mr. Lapham at 14 or 15 - Mrs. L. has  
3 little girls - She & Mrs. M. have each a  
governess who are 2 sisters of the name of  
Lang - Mrs. M. described hers as a delightful  
young woman whom she liked better & better  
every day - They came out with Dr. Brack,  
& lived at Mr. Ireland's till they found situa-  
tions - Mrs. M. has not been for 3 years  
in Hobart Town - She told me that the day



Before our arrival, the convict cook went off  
determined to spite her by not preparing the dinner.  
He returned he said to see the Governor &  
declared that he had done the same thing  
before with another master & ran away  
just at the time when he knew he was  
most wanted.

Major Ryan & Captain O'Hara met us as we entered the town & were joined by Mr. Lane, the Under Sheriff & Mr. R. Dry, junr. J. D. Many apologies were made by the Major that he did not meet us with a larger body of gentlemen & a greater distance from the town - Mr. Lawrence & others had attended at the hour notified, but seeing the badness of the weather, concluded we should not come & had dispersed - Major Ryan with Mr. Lawrence & the others named were invited to dinner - We sat down 12, as much many as the table would hold, the others being Lt. Friend, Capt. Wentworth - I sat between the Major & Mr. Lawrence who informed me, on my enquiring after his wife, that she was confined - The dinner was lively & pleasant, & in the evening Mr. F. & I planned a regatta on the river - He told me he thought I was not at all aware of the general feeling of the country towards Sir John - I must not care for the newspapers - They held him, he assured me, in local veneration -

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> / The rising weather continued. Sir John had expressed to Mr. Lawrence a wish to see him in the next morning, & as he received him in the banqueting room leaving an ante room to my bedroom, I could have heard, had I wished it all they said, & did indeed hear without being able to help it - Their chief topic was the conveyance of water to the town & I heard Mr. L. declare that



is a bare looking white house belonging to a farm which is rented by Capt. Sgarot, enclosed on the front ground, & then descended again on cultivated grounds, where we passed by <sup>on our</sup> the road side, 2 or 3 dwellings - The river was seen partially on the left. This the trees - on the same side at a little distance from the road, Kennedy the orderly who acted as our guide pointed out to us this the trees the house of Allen Vale belonging to the Allen family, which he said Col. Arthur had occupied during his last visit to Luncheon with his family. Some way beyond, we found the road we had selected this the road was stopped by a gate, which Kennedy pulled down & we entered the inclosure of a very prettily situated farm called Redhill, which we afterwards learnt was rented by the elder Mr. Bentley of Mr. Bennett who is in England. It occupies an elevated green ridge overlooking a narrow cultivated vale opening to the Tamar. I began to suspect when here that we had mistaken the road, - being confirmed in this supposition, we were making our way back to it, when we were overtaken by the gentleman whom we had left with Sir John & who told us he had come in search of us in consequence of having seen the marks upon cartwheels in the wrong direction - He guided us back into the right track, & recommended us to get rid of our leading horse, which was exceedingly & made our progress dangerous. - Kennedy had nearly been

26 25 26  
crushed under the wheel in endeavouring  
to jump up after leaving the horse's head  
& in jumping over a gate at Mr. Bentley's  
farm, he jumped upon a snake, from  
which he started aside with great agility  
disabling it he imagines from mischief by  
the cracking of his heavy boot. - Kennedy  
seeming to be quite certain that the gentle-  
man who had now joined as was Captain  
Killy, I, ~~this man~~ ~~there~~ doubting the ac-  
curacy of my own memory which made  
me think the contrary, asked him after  
Mr. K. when he told me he was Captain  
Stewart, whose name I had seen on a card  
left by him at foot cottage - his house is called  
Mt Stewart, & is at the distance of 3 miles from  
Launceston - it was one of those we had  
passed on the road. -

Captain Stewart is a respectable gentlemanly  
kind of man, of middle age - he went out  
to Sydney 13 years ago with his regiment, the  
40<sup>th</sup>, & staid behind in this country when  
it went to India - he has been 10 years here  
when first he came the march was covered  
with water in winter & there was no bridge  
over the S. E. k, so that he was always ob-  
liged to go to town & water. He & Captain  
Killy are the chief or only proprietors  
for 11 miles along the right bank of the Tamar  
as their properties join, - they are on ex-  
cellent terms, they suffer their sheep to make  
a common run of both. Captain Stewart is  
a widower with 5 children - he is an old friend  
of brother officer of Major Butler, whom, however



he has not been since his return to the Colony.  
 I learnt all these details by interrogatories  
 to himself as we passed thro' the forest; after  
 leaving Mr. Hentz's farm, the river was shut  
 out from our view till we approached Coloni-  
 um, when it opened finally on the left - a little  
 before coming to the river, we crossed a  
 badly constructed timber bridge over a deep  
 trench drain made to drain a morass behind  
 by the agent of Coloni who holds the land.

We were received & with extraordinary ci-  
 vility by Mrs. Colon, who regretted she had  
 not been apprised of our arrival. We had  
 some of her ginger beer & raspberry puffs,  
 & then took to the boat which was lying at  
 their jetty - stairs - Mr. C. thanking us for  
 the honor done her, & begging Sir Johns aid  
 in the building of a new house which  
 they contemplate living in after getting the  
 river to a tenant.

We were seated in the boat of Mr. Bateman  
 the Harbour Master, who among other things  
 told us on the W. bank of the river that we might  
 take a walk before we went on board for  
 the evening - We rowed about 2 miles  
 crossing the mouth of a creek called Maddy Creek  
 on our l. & landing near it, between 2 islands  
 under a cottage on the hill which we were  
 told belonged to a Mr. Burkford - as we were  
 ascending the hill, 2 persons bareheaded  
 came to meet us - the elder, a  
 tall, fine-looking man, with a black patch  
 over his left eye was Mr. Burkford. The other  
 had been told by young Mr. Grant of the Hospital  
 having lodged the contents of his gun in it one  
 day when pursuing some quail - This was 2  
 years ago - Mr. B. spoke of it with not any unpleasant  
 infection - he said that after a time, J. Grant

neglected him tho' he was suffering much; when Mr<sup>B.</sup> met him again, he reproached for having taken no notice of his desire to see him - young Grant excused himself on the ground of his extreme poverty - he had no horse, he had not money to pay his passage in the punt. Mr B. told him that tho' he felt hurt, yet whenever he did come, tho' only for his own purposes or pleasure, he should ever receive a hearty welcome. This was fine feeling on the part of Mr. Bedford & one could only regret that another & not himself had to tell it - He seemed to wonder at our unexpected visit & to think it must have some particular object - the W. bank of the Tamar had not been so honored before, & he seemed to look for an explanation - Sir John would take no credit to himself, but said it was an accidental visit owing to my desire to take a walk on shore - Well - whether they owed the honor to accident or not, they were equally proud & happy, his wife, for this time he had introduced us into his wooden cottage at the top of the hill, joined actively in the self gratulations & then came the wants & grievances of the locality, very modestly & reasonably urged however & reducible to this one fact, that having obtained from the government what they had asked for in a surveyor to define a line of road, they were hitherto none the better for his coming, yet since the line of road selected had not been made known to them, so



Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan<sup>r</sup> we commenced our expedition  
 to Flinders, our invited party  
 consisting of Major Ryan & Mr. R. Gunn; Mr.  
 Friend was in expectation of going, but Sir J. thought  
 it unnecessary & having received a very disagree-  
 able letter from Mr. Goodwin, editor of the Colonial  
<sup>Chronicle</sup> preferring various charges against <sup>him</sup>, he was under  
 the necessity of having an enquiry instituted  
 into them & therefore determined to leave him  
 behind - We did not set off till the afternoon  
 Sir J. having letters to write (one of these was  
 to Mr. Evans on the appointment of Mr. Mason  
 to supersede him at New Norfolk) & I had a long  
 interview with Mr. Lawrence, Mr. D'Auch & then  
 Gunn - On the 2<sup>nd</sup> form, I spoke on the subject  
 of my 2 contemplated evening lectures - Mr.  
 L. after having said that none was called  
 for or expected, told me in this occasion that  
 they were, that 2 were expected, that it  
 was known I had sent to Hobart Town for  
 prints, & it had been expressed to him  
 that it was much desired that Lg. Fr. would  
 make no distinction in his 2 lectures - This led  
 me to explain the nature of the grades 1.2.3.4  
 which had been the subject of the newspaper  
 squibs, to all of which he listened in attentive  
 silence - He then informed me that it had been  
 suggested to ~~me~~ <sup>him</sup> that an open drawing-room  
 like that I held before might be the most  
 desirable, to which I made a series of objections  
 which he appeared to appreciate - I spoke to him  
 of my emigrant colony, which <sup>he</sup> I feared would  
 not answer, & accordingly I inwardly resolved that  
 this was the last time I would talk to him on  
 this subject - With Mr. D'Auch I went home - The list

of names <sup>he took</sup> & set it away with him in order  
to get some other opinions - It was clear to me  
that he decided, as to the exclusion of shopkeepers  
that an exception should be made in favor of  
Mr. Dowling, the bookseller, son of the Baptist  
minister, & proprietor of the Launceston Gazette  
of which Mr. Jackson is the editor - I said I  
thought the latter fact the greatest objection to  
his being so asked, it would look like ~~for~~ buying  
the newspaper. the spoke wall of Mr. Jackson.  
The Schooner was lying at anchor below Colonel's  
inn, & I preferred going by land as we  
had been before by water - Mary & I &  
Margaret were driven in the cart tandem  
fashion, & Sir John & Mr. Elliot rode - Captain  
Macnechie & Mr. Gunn remained behind to  
come on in the evening, as the tide did not  
<sup>seem</sup> to go lower down the river - Captain M.  
dined with Mr. Lawrence who told him  
that his interview with Sir John had been  
very satisfactory to him, particularly as  
respected his appointment of the Magistracy  
for which he had given sufficient reasons,  
& he only regretted that Sir J. had not been  
aware that in some of the districts  
there lived persons who besides the claims  
which had weighed with Sir J. in the  
appointment of those he had made, possessed  
more individual respectability -

As we were quitting the town, a gentleman  
on horseback joined Sir John & Mr. E.  
We left all 3 behind & proceeded across  
the flat, at the farther extremity of which



he never communicated to him this fact, being determined to invite no notice to him <sup>in future</sup> self on such grounds. For some years after his first settling, he was very unfortunate, & met with great losses from robbers. He has lived in his present cottage about a year - His next neighbour below is Mr. Dutton R. N. & below him is Mr. Tobin, a J. P.

We were taken by Mr. Buckford along his own garden paths, into the cornfields of his tenants & up to their cottage & garden which he calls Upper Rosewhyn - The inhabitants of the cottage had gone out he said to tea, (one wounded where the neighbour was to be found) but he bid us round the garden which like all others we look at about this season is stripped of its summer spoors & creepers & has yet no other ripe fruit to show - he had in it some vines & a logan berry from the Cape & some dahlias with other flowers. He said they were not <sup>much</sup> affected here by the summer frosts - This farm has a fine view of the river, & on a position a little below the cottage, the inlet called Muddy Creek is immediately below the eye, with the windings of a small river entering it between grassy & wooded banks on which cattle were grazing. We parted amicably from the Buckford family & were rowed back to the Schoon, Mr. & Mrs. Bateman taking leave of us here to return to town - Captain Maconschke & Mr. Gunn arrived on board about 3 o'clock. We were not under way again till 9 the next morning - When I went aboard we were in Spring Bay

Tuesday, Jan. 23,

The Andromeda was near us, having dropped down with the tide - She fired a gun as we passed under her stern. - The outlet from Spring Bay into Whirlpool reach is backed by some fine hills of different elevations in the distance, & this is one of the prettiest parts of the river - We obtained several clearings & huts & cottages in different places but neither captain or pilot could give us any account of the proprietors - We grazed banks on the l. quite close in passing this the Whirlpool reach, the navigation of which as well as that of the whole river, is well defined by buoy marks - Below the reach we were obliged to anchor for the rest of the day the tide not serving to take us farther - This was slow progress during 2 days' navigation - We anchored just before dinner, & I afterwards begged for a boat to go on shore - Some little delay was occasioned by the arrival alongside of Lt. Friend ~~with~~ accompanied by the Master of a ship from S. Australia called the Lady Emma who had with him his wife also, a very pretty young woman - They had taken out 40 emigrants to S. Australia in this vessel which is of 230 tons & is the property of the Master Mr. Hurst - he seemed disposed to sell her at Lancaster if he met with his price - He brought a S. Australian gazette by which it appears that the entrance to Lake Alexandrine is confirmed, & that the anniversary of the foundation of the Colony had been held, & Capt. Hindmarsh well supported - Mr. Hurst thinks S. Australia a



magnificent country, & is building a house on some land he has there - Nevertheless, he said, he liked this country better, & was much disposed to settle here - he was once some years ago at Hobart Town.

We took our leave of Mr. & Mrs. Harrot & of the surgeon who accompanied them, in order that we might land on the shore for a walk - Mr. Friend left us to go back to George Town, & the Strangers went up in their own boat to Town - The nearest <sup>large</sup> place on the E. bank of the Tamar was that of Mr. Willmore, a Magistrate, whose wood cottage with its 2 windows above & a verandah stands on an eminence, which terminates in a small bluff above undulating grounds of lower elevation to the north, on the main side - a lawn & light woodfence, with garden path give some character of an English villa to the spot - but the house is a very small mean building - there is a good garden & various offices close to the house - Mr. Willmore is a young man of respectable character who left England with considerable property in 1831, & settled here in 1832, too late to take advantage of the Free grant system - he purchased his land of an individual & gave a high price for it, but he is not dissatisfied with the present results. He has about 150 acres in cultivation upon an estate of 1200 acres - Some of this was cleared when he purchased, the rest he has done himself - On his first arrival his clearing cost him as much as 20 £ per acre, now, the price of labour being lower, he thinks it would

37  
ropeash more than 10 £ - He succeeded in buying  
any good land - Mr. Willmore came out at  
the same time with Mr. Bentley, Senr. in  
the Flora (the ship's designation seems in  
this colony to be always an essential part  
of an individual's characteristics) - His brother  
Mr or Dr. Willmore, a Surgeon at Norfolk  
plain, came out 2 or 3 years afterwards,  
& bought property to the value of 10000 £  
in land - The governor of this latter gentleman  
is now married to the gentleman we were  
visiting - on my asking him if he led a  
bachelor life here, as we saw at first no  
inhabitant of the cottage but himself,  
he said gruffly, "I!" & then going out of  
the room came back with a little baby  
of 5 months old in his arms, <sup>his</sup> wife, a young  
sunny fair & delicate-looking creature follows  
him - The neighbour of Mr. Willmore are Mr.  
Raffy immediately above, & Mr. Reed beyond, &  
~~lower~~ down the river, Mr. Dunsen's property ex-  
tends to <sup>opposite</sup> ~~below~~ George Town - A constable is stationed  
on Mr. Willmore's land - The wooded hills on  
the opposite side of the river for a considerable distance  
belong to Mr. Lawrence of Laureiston - He has  
cattle & sheep there, but the soil is bad - a 2 story  
white house is seen in these woods which is  
inhabited by the owners. Mr. Lawrence has  
the intention of building a handsome house



that they were as unable as ever to put up  
 their fences - It appears that a surveyor, Mr.  
 Wabington was sent down 5 or 6 months ago,  
 & laid down 2 or more lines of road for selec-  
 tion - afterwards Capt. Cheyne came down  
 & examined them, without entering a single  
 settler's house on the way, or consulting any  
 one's opinion or judgment - That as we were  
 at this, said Mr. <sup>Buckford</sup> Wabington, we should not  
 have minded if any road whatever had  
 been decided upon & made known to us, but  
 from that day to this we remain in ignorance  
 & in pain knowing that he had given the  
 necessary orders, was not prepared to hear of  
 this delay & promised to enquire into it. - Mr.  
 Buckford brought forward his wife, a good plain  
 farmer's wife who thanked me expressly for  
 putting in a word in their favor - having no  
 children, he had lately sent for his niece, <sup>married</sup> a young  
 man of the name of Lambeth, whose trade he  
 disapproved as being that of glass worker & architect  
 They also mention one of the <sup>ships</sup> latest <sup>(the former Campbell)</sup> - another  
 individual of the domestic circle was Mr. & Mrs. Bateson  
 the wife of the Harbour master, a common & crop-  
 looking person whom we took away with us  
 in the boat. - She is a sister of Mr. Pitt, Harbour  
 Master at Hobart, & has lived 33 years in this  
 country & at Sydney having come out there  
 an infant - Mr. Buckford has built the cottage  
 he is now living in on a vacant portion of his  
 estate consisting of 20 acres; he has a large garden  
 & some officers - The estate consists of 800 ~~to 1000~~ <sup>200</sup> acres  
 of which are in cultivation. It feeds  
 some cattle also & sheep - It is rented by Messrs. Kennedy

a fallow for I believe 500 a year on a 7 or 14  
years lease as they think best proper. - They  
entered upon it last Oct<sup>r</sup> twelvemonth, Mr.  
Kennedy (who is no relation of the other Kennedys  
of Lenneston, & was originally a Clerk in the Bys  
bank in Scotland, & afterwards a Clerk in a bank  
here / residing on board the Cairn hulk at Lenn-  
ceston, & Mr. V. who was deceived by Mrs  
Beckford as being a very industrious young  
man, residing here. - Mr. Beckford came out  
12 or 13 years ago in the Andromeda <sup>of 420 tons</sup> which  
identical vessel was now lying at anchor  
immediately under Mr. Beckford's residence.  
She was taking in a cargo of wood as ballast  
for Valparaiso - 13 years ago she came out  
here first with prisoners - The wood costs her  
3 sh. a ton, taken at the water side - at  
Valparaiso, she gets copper ore & dye-woods,  
receiving 6 or 10 per ton. Mr. Beckford is a Corn-  
man, & calls his place Rosecathryn from his former  
residence at Truro - he was acquainted with  
the late Lord de Danstanville, Sir Charles Lemon  
& Sir Humphry Vivian, the last of whom he spoke  
of with an enthusiasm of affection & admira-  
tion - "he was the noblest man in all England".  
Sir Humphry when he left England, gave him letters  
for Sir Thomas Brisbane, which however he  
never sent, as Sir Thomas was at that time  
about leaving the Colony of New S. Wales.  
Mr. Beckford said he had often dined with Col.  
Arthur's father at Plymouth, where he was Col-  
lector of the Customs, but during the whole  
time he lived in this colony under Col. A's go-  
vernment



RS 16(2)(1) Number of aborigines  
receiving rations at Klondike Mar 31<sup>st</sup> day  
1833

Males — 52  
Females — 44  
Male Infant — 1  
Female do — 3  
100

Arrived at the Settlement afterwards

57  
Births 7  
64  
100  
64  
164

Deaths — 68  
68

Total 164  
68  
Total 96  
96

Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> / 1841 / Mr. Carr, Tooley, Baecher &  
Law Sir J. Mr. Lawrence brought  
me moth with red hair a foot long growing  
out of its head, from New Zealand - Mr. Ronald  
Gunn was there, Mr. L. had not permitted  
him to touch it - asked Mr. Gunn abt snakes.  
he had received no recent order, only one  
yr ago to kill & preserve the snakes, an  
order he did not understand, now he shd  
understand & thought it wd be effectual.  
Mars & I took walk, up to valley off S. Is.  
after driving some way, to had path of road  
see stream on l. descended & crept in hollow -  
led again on forest land - overlooking on l.  
a sweet flat meadow, shaded by few trees,  
on which cattle grazing - rose & came to  
wooden house called High Mount, on r.  
a little farther & higher overlooking valley of  
Tke, cult. & wood & some houses & mts, in  
Pipui Ham, wooden house at r angle with  
large sash windows - saw woman here, sd it  
belonged to Mr. Adam - little farther on to  
affluent hill in Bardon Hill, Lt. Klesman  
R. M. beautiful situation - returned - did  
not little Susan Adam, returning from  
market with butter barrel - had sold 4 1/2  
lbs. for 2 dollars - and to go to Miss Laytons  
school. her father had another farm she  
sd, & several town allotments. going on  
saw old man with dislocated hand about  
a white linen boy's breeches. sd he was a free  
man, had been long free, 20 yrs ago came  
near so - wanted to see Govr & to build  
a hut on the forest - afterwards met 2 women  
descended from market. then stopped still



RS 16/2C1)

to drop a curtsey, <sup>seeing orderlies</sup> ~~the~~ having passed corner  
it was Mrs. Murphy of High St. the  
wooden farm where old man was - asked  
me if I was Governor's daughter, & the  
other if I was Mrs. Franklin - <sup>later</sup> had  
something to buy for her husband & prisoner  
hastened back to dinner - Carr's renewal  
of Ciri. head - discharging &c - Mr. &  
friends Anny & Helen gone that morning  
to Port Phillip - Capt. M. dined at Mrs  
Lawrence's with Gunn & Mr. Jackson of New  
paper. Sir J. in spite of abuse, & Carleton  
then usual / always I should ask him if  
he called - nothing passed, but after Capt. M.  
went, <sup>Mr. J.</sup> told Mr. Lawrence he  
should leave his cards, then Mr. L.  
advised him strongly to leave his wife's side  
Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> / went to Dr. Brown's ch.  
well filled - I don't remember gen. I found those  
who left Ch. of Engl. complaining had not  
suff. means of grace, did not care for religion  
at all, did it from political motives, with  
one exception - went to school - some  
ladies there - talked with Dr. B. about  
Bapt. Socy - dined early - went to Mr  
Pier's new chapel on plain - 4 side w. don't  
see a porch at fr. & 2 w. flat ceiling - 16  
arches each side. <sup>front</sup> hanging lamps - finials  
on pulpit. purple velvet & orange lapsels - path  
on 4 fl. col. door into it above - 2 side doors -  
Mr. Pier had begun - no pew opened -  
one narrow shewn - did not like it & took  
another - when sermon began, lady came on  
& seats turned out - 1 in - she did not know who.

float some how or other as she sat - at  
I saw by way of her sitting that she gasped  
when over a pol. to her - she seemed when  
did not know how to get out - proceeded &  
let me pass -  
settled about sailing for Mendis in evening



RS 16/2(1)

A. H. S. Beagle  
26<sup>th</sup> Sept: 37  
Simons Bay

The enclosed letters for your Excellency  
have forwarded by the English  
barge Hydromeda as it is more  
than probable the Beagle will  
not reach San Simons until

RS 16/2(1)